

REMARKS

Claims 3, 7 and 10-12 remain in this application. Claims 3, 7 and 9-12 are rejected. Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 8 and 9 are cancelled herein. Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 are previously cancelled.

With respect to the drawing and substitute specification submitted with the Amendment filed November 3, 2003, applicant hereby states that the drawing and substitute specification contain no new matter. As such, the drawing and substitute specification should be officially approved for entry.

Claims 3, 7 and 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Masumoto et al. reference (JP 8-131461) in view of the Cecconi reference (U.S. Pat. No. 4,995,811). A complete English-language translation of Masumoto et al. is submitted herewith for the Examiner's review.

Claim 3 is amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 8. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection of claims 3, 7 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Masumoto et al. in view of Cecconi has been overcome and should be removed and that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests a two month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Please charge the fee of \$420 for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,
JORDAN AND HAMBURG LLP

By C. Bruce Hamburg by Buerkle
C. Bruce Hamburg *Reg. No.*
Reg. No. 22,389 *35336*
Attorney for Applicants

Jordan and Hamburg LLP
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10168
(212) 986-2340